



Dennis Fulton  
312.230.4885  
[defulton@att.com](mailto:defulton@att.com)



Karen Sanborn  
248.204.2210  
[sanborn@ltu.edu](mailto:sanborn@ltu.edu)



Elin Spahr  
313.887.7209  
[spahr@airfoilpr.com](mailto:spahr@airfoilpr.com)

## NEWS RELEASE

### AT&T Grant Makes Technology Camp Possible for Detroit Area Girls

DETROIT – March 18, 2004 – In support of a critical initiative to attract more young women to careers in science, math and technology-related fields, AT&T has awarded a \$25,000 grant to Lawrence Technological University and the Michigan Council of Women in Technology (MCWT) to implement an AT&T Young Women in Technology Camp during the summer of 2004.

The program, designed to introduce young women to computer and Internet technologies through exciting, hands-on activities, will be attended by 40 Detroit-area fourth through seventh grade girls selected through an application process. The AT&T grant will enable the partners to offer the program free to young women through community-based scholarships.

“We’re proud to be working with these fine institutions in extending our long history of support for advancing the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science and engineering,” said Mike Heath, AT&T regional vice president. “Being a technology-driven and increasingly IP-focused business, it is imperative for AT&T to have a highly-trained, diverse workforce that helps drive innovation. Initiatives like the AT&T Young Women in Technology Camp will help create a rich pool of talent needed for the future.”

The camp will be held at Lawrence Tech’s Southfield campus, with University faculty providing instruction. Lawrence Tech will work with the MCWT to develop camp curriculum and identify and recruit leading female technologists to serve as role models and mentors for the campers.

After completing the camp, the young women will be invited to participate in MCWT’s Technology Learning Program designed to further expose students to technology and to maintain contact with Detroit’s technology leaders.

“We’re thrilled to be facilitating these technology camps for young women,” said Charles M. Chambers, Lawrence Tech president. “They will be a wonderful complement to the other outreach programs we conduct to pique girls’ interest in math, science and engineering.”

According to the National Council for Research on Women (NCRW), the percentage of women enrolled in undergraduate computer science programs has drastically declined over a 15-year period. In 1984, the percentage of science degrees earned by women was 37 percent. The percentage dropped to less than 20 percent in 1999, when 90 percent of high school students taking advanced placement tests for computer science college credit were male, the NCRW said in its study, "Balancing the Equation: Where Are Women and Girls in Science, Engineering and Technology?"

Programs such as the AT&T Young Women in Technology Camps, the NCRW study found, have had encouraging results in helping to reverse these trends. The study also concluded that young women benefit from math and science programs that are designed exclusively for them and that use a cooperative, hands-on approach rather than stress competition and individual learning.

AT&T has a long-standing commitment to supporting educational opportunities for diverse populations, with special emphasis on encouraging women and minorities to enter into the fields of math, science and engineering. For 30 years, the AT&T Labs Fellowship program has provided financial support and mentoring to women and minority graduate students pursuing Ph.D. degrees in the fields of science and engineering.

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#### **About AT&T**

For more than 125 years, AT&T (NYSE "T") has been known for unparalleled quality and reliability in communications. Backed by the research and development capabilities of AT&T Labs, the company is a global leader in local, long distance, Internet and transaction-based voice and data services.

#### **About Lawrence Tech**

Lawrence Technological University ([www.ltu.edu](http://www.ltu.edu)) offers more than 50 undergraduate, master's and doctoral degree programs in Colleges of Architecture and Design, Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Management. Lawrence Tech pioneered the offering of day and evening classes more than 70 years ago, and now has a growing number of weekend programs.

#### **About The Michigan Council of Women in Technology**

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology provides leadership, mentoring, outreach, professional development and service to professional women within the Michigan technology community. The organization fosters growth and continued development for tomorrow's technology leaders. The group provides organizational support to Michigan's educational institutions, and promotes women in technology fields. For more information, visit [www.mcwt.org](http://www.mcwt.org).